



Brussels, **XXX**  
[...] (2015) **XXX** draft

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

of **XXX**

**on technical standards for the refill mechanism of electronic cigarettes**

(Text with EEA relevance)

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of **XXX**

**on technical standards for the refill mechanism of electronic cigarettes**

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Directive 2014/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products and repealing Directive 2001/37/EC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 20(13) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 20(3)(g) of Directive 2014/40/EU requires Member States to ensure that electronic cigarettes and their refill containers have a mechanism that ensures refilling without leakage.
- (2) Article 20(13) of Directive 2014/40/EU confers implementing powers on the Commission to lay down technical standards for the refill mechanism of electronic cigarettes.
- (3) Given the toxicity of the nicotine-containing liquids used in electronic cigarettes and refill containers, it is appropriate to ensure that electronic cigarettes can be refilled in a manner that minimises the risk of dermal contact or accidental ingestion of such liquids.
- (4) On the basis of feedback received from stakeholders and work carried out by an external contractor, technical standards have been identified which are intended to ensure that compliant refill mechanisms provide sufficient protection against leakage.
- (5) The technical standards identified also comprise measures ensuring that consumers are properly informed of how to operate the refill mechanisms in order to ensure leakage free refilling.
- (6) These technical standards should therefore constitute the basis for the technical standards to be adopted.
- (7) Stakeholders may wish to provide the Commission with information on alternative mechanisms they have developed for leakage-free refilling, which may result in a revision of this decision.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee referred to in Article 25 of Directive 2014/40/EU,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 127, 29.04.2014, p. 1.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

**Subject matter**

This Decision lays down the technical standards applicable to the refill mechanism of electronic cigarettes manufactured in or imported into the Union..

*Article 2*

**Requirements for the refill mechanism**

1. Member States shall ensure that refillable electronic cigarettes and refill containers are only placed on the market if the mechanism by which the electronic cigarettes are refilled complies with one of the following conditions:
  - (a) it entails the use of a refill container possessing a non-detachable nozzle at least 1cm long, which is narrower than and slots comfortably into the opening of the tank of the electronic cigarette with which it is used and possessing a flow control mechanism that emits no more than 20 drops of refill liquid per minute when placed vertically;
  - (b) it operates by means of a docking system which only releases refill liquids when the electronic cigarette and refill container are connected.
2. Member States shall ensure that refillable electronic cigarettes and refill containers include appropriate instructions for refilling including graphic illustrations as part of the instructions for use required by Article 20(4)(a)(i) of Directive 2014/40/EU. Refillable electronic cigarettes and refill containers with a refill mechanism of the type referred to in paragraph 1(a) shall indicate the width of the nozzle or width of the opening of the tank in the instructions for use in a manner that enables consumers to identify the compatibility of refill containers and electronic cigarettes.

*Article 3*

**Addressees**

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*  
*Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS*  
*Member of the Commission*